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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2001, at 2 p.m.

Senate

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2001

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CRAIG THOMAS, a Senator from the State of Wyoming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The guest Chaplain, Dr. Richard B. Foth, of Falls Church, VA, will lead us in prayer.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Shall we pray.

We stand here today, Almighty God, grateful and humbled. On this Memorial Day weekend, we are awed by the sacrifice of those who have gone before.

In a few hours, our Senators will vote on new tax laws. Debate has been intense, and we are grateful for the right to speak out and fight for opinions, for that freedom has been costly.

It has been bought by the blood of our very best, who often fought and died in lonely places with strange sounding names, far from home and family.

Every one of them counts, and we remember them today.

For the Americans who guard freedom around the world at this moment, we join with those they love—the mother in Seattle, that dad in Wichita, a sister in Mobile—in praying for their safe return.

Every one counts, and we remember them today.

And for the men and women of this United States Senate, who also guard our freedoms, we ask a fresh measure of peace. Pour Your perspective we pray, into the hearts of those here whom You know need it the most.

It is by Your grace that our Senators serve, and we count on that very grace to calm the waters in this place for every Senator has been designed in Your image and their freedom has been bought with a price.

Every one counts, and we remember them today.

We ask these things in the name of the One who calls us to be free. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CRAIG THOMAS led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CRAIG THOMAS, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. THOMAS thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

EXTENDING OUR SPECIAL APPRECIATION TO THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. LOTT. I extend our special appreciation to our guest Chaplain this morning for the beautiful and most appropriate prayer. We are delighted to have Dr. Foth here.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. It is Saturday, May 26, Memorial Day weekend, a special weekend for recognizing those who have sacrificed so much for our country. The Chaplain is right: Everyone does count. That is why Senators are here. We are doing the American people's business. Later on today we hope to complete action on a very significant piece of legislation, tax relief for all Americans.

The Senate will be in a short period of morning business awaiting the conference report to accompany the tax reconciliation bill.

I see Senator SPECTER is in the Chamber ready to speak in morning

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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